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the elastomeric layer being in the form of a scrim,  
an apertures formed film, an elastomeric woven or nonwoven, or  
discrete strands or strings;

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An elastic laminate elastically extensible in at least one direction, comprising:  
an elastomeric ~~material~~ <sup>layer</sup> having a first surface and a second surface opposing the first surface; ~~and~~ <sup>layer</sup>  
5 a first nonwoven layer joined to the first surface of the elastomeric ~~material~~ <sup>layer</sup>,  
the first nonwoven layer being formed from component fibers having a primary fiber  
direction;  
wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Fiber Orientation Ratio within about  
±20 degrees from a primary fiber direction of at least about 65%.
- 10 2. The elastic laminate according to Claim 1, wherein the first nonwoven layer  
has a Tensile Strength Ratio of at least about 15.
3. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a  
stress of less than about 200 gf/inch (about 80 gf/cm) at 30% elongation.
4. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Fiber  
Orientation Ratio within about ±10 degrees from the primary fiber direction of at  
least about 45%.
5. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a  
basis weight of less than about 60 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
6. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, further comprising a second nonwoven layer  
joined to the second surface of the elastomeric ~~material~~ <sup>layer</sup>.
- ~~7. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the elastomeric material is in the  
form of a continuous plane layer or a strand.~~
- 7 8. The elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first nonwoven layer is made  
from synthetic continuous fibers.

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- 8 ~~8~~. The elastic laminate of Claim ~~8~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein the synthetic continuous fibers are made from a polyolefin or a polyester.
- 9 ~~10~~. The elastic laminate of Claim ~~8~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein the synthetic continuous fibers are bicomponent fibers.
- 10 ~~11~~. A disposable garment having a front region, a back region and a crotch region between the front region and the back region, comprising: a chassis provided in the front, back and crotch regions and having edge lines in the front and back regions, the chassis comprising a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet associated with the topsheet, and an absorbent core disposed between the topsheet and the backsheet; and at least one pair of extensible side panels extending laterally outward from the chassis in the front or back region,
- 5 wherein at least one of the side panels including an elastic laminate elastically extensible at least in the lateral direction, the elastic laminate including:
- 10 (a) an elastomeric ~~material~~<sup>layer</sup> having a first surface and a second surface opposing the first surface; and
- (b) a first nonwoven layer joined to the first surface of the elastomeric ~~material~~<sup>layer</sup>, the first nonwoven layer being formed from component fibers
- 15 having a primary fiber direction;
- wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Fiber Orientation Ratio within about  $\pm 20$  degrees from a primary fiber direction of at least about 65%.
- 11 ~~12~~. A disposable garment having a longitudinal center line, longitudinal edges, end edges, a front region, a back region and a crotch region between the front region and the back region, comprising: a chassis provided in the front, back and crotch regions and having edge lines in the front and back regions, the chassis
- 5 comprising a liquid pervious topsheet, a liquid impervious backsheet associated with the topsheet, and an absorbent core disposed between the topsheet and the backsheet; and a waistband disposed along at least one of the end edges of the disposable garment,
- wherein the waistband includes an elastic laminate including
- 10 (a) an elastomeric ~~material~~<sup>layer</sup> having a first surface and a second surface opposing the first surface; and

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- (b) a first nonwoven layer joined to the first surface of the elastomeric layer material, the first nonwoven layer being formed from component fibers having a primary fiber direction;
- 15 wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Fiber Orientation Ratio within about  $\pm 20$  degrees from a primary fiber direction of at least about 65%.
- 12 ~~13~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, further comprising seams which join the chassis to the side panels to form two leg openings and a waist opening.
- 13 ~~14~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, wherein the at least one pair of the side panels comprises one pair of extensible front side panels extending laterally outward from the chassis in the front region, and one pair of extensible back side panels extending laterally outward from the chassis in the back region,
- 5 and the disposable garment further comprises seams each joining the front and back side panels to form the two leg openings and the waist opening.
- 14 ~~15~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Tensile Strength Ratio of at least about 15.
- 15 ~~16~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a stress of less than about 200 gf/inch (about 80 gf/cm) at 30% elongation.
- 16 ~~17~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, wherein the first nonwoven layer has a Fiber Orientation Ratio within about  $\pm 10$  degrees from the primary fiber direction of at least about 45%.
- 17 ~~18~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, further comprising a second nonwoven layer joined to the second surface of the elastomeric material layer.
- 18 ~~19~~ <sup>10 11</sup> The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~ or ~~12~~, wherein the elastomeric material layer is in the form of a continuous plane layer or a strand.

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~~20.~~ The disposable garment of Claim ~~11~~<sup>10</sup> or ~~12~~<sup>11</sup>, wherein the first nonwoven layer is formed from synthetic continuous fibers which are made from a polyolefin or a polyester.